AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A text generation method for generating a natural sentence from parts of the sentence, comprising:

an input step using input means for inputting only parts of the sentence wherein the natural sentence is characteristic of a style or an expression,

an extracting step using extracting means for extracting ~~at least one~~ candidate sentence ~~part~~ parts or ~~phrase~~ phrases, which includes an inputted part of the sentence, from a database , and

a text generation step using text generation means for generating ~~a~~ the natural sentence ~~using~~ based on the inputted parts of the sentence and the extracted ~~at least one~~ candidate sentence ~~part or phrase~~ parts or phrases by combining the extracted candidate sentence parts or phrases, and

wherein parser means morphologically analyzes and parses the extracted at least one sentence part or phrase to obtain a syntactic structure of the at least one candidate sentence part or phrase by determining the syntactic probability of the appropriateness of the order of candidate sentence parts or phrases by applying a statistical technique using a syntactic model, thereby generating a sentence having a maximum probability of being a natural sentence which is characteristic of the style or expression.

2-3. (Cancelled)

PCL/RJW/jmc/aee

4. (Currently Amended) The text generation method according to claim 1, wherein ~~in the middle of or after the generation of the dependency structure in the text generation step,~~ the text generation means generates the natural sentence to have a natural word order based on a word order model.

5. (Previously Presented) The text generation method according to claim 1, wherein the text generation step determines by word insertion means, using a learning model, whether there is a word to be inserted between any two keywords in all arrangements of the keywords, and performs a word insertion process starting with a word having the highest probability in the learning model, wherein the word insertion means performs the word insertion process by including, as a keyword, a word to be inserted, between the two keywords, and determining whether there is a word to be inserted between the other two keywords in all arrangements of the keywords, and by repeating the cycle of word inclusion and determination until a probability that there is no word to be inserted between any keywords becomes the highest.

6. (Previously Presented) The text generation method according to claim 1, wherein in an arrangement where the database contains a text having a characteristic text pattern, the text generation means generates a text in compliance with the characteristic text pattern.

7. (Currently Amended) A text generation apparatus for generating a natural sentence, comprising:

PCL/RJW/jmc/aee

input means for inputting only parts of the sentence wherein the natural sentence is

characteristic of a style or expression,

extracting means for extracting ~~at least one~~ candidate sentence <u>parts or phrases</u> ~~part or a~~

~~phrase~~, which includes an inputted part of the sentence, from a database, and

text generation means for generating an optimum natural sentence ~~by using~~ <u>based on</u> the

<u>inputted parts of the sentence and the extracted candidate sentence parts or phrases by combining</u>

<u>the extracted candidate sentence parts or phrases</u> ~~extracted text~~,

wherein parser means morphologically analyzes and parses the extracted at least one

candidate sentence part or phrase to obtain a syntactic probability of the appropriateness of the

order of candidate sentence parts or phrases by determining the syntactic probability of the at

least one candidate sentence part or phrase by applying a statistical technique using a syntactic

model, thereby generating a sentence having a maximum probability of bring a natural sentence

which is characteristic of the style or expression .

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The text generation apparatus according to claim 7, wherein ~~in~~

~~the middle of or prior to the generation of the dependency structure,~~ the text generation means

generates the natural sentence to have a natural word order based on a word order model.

11. (Previously Presented) The text generation apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

the text generation means comprises word insertion means that determines, using a learning

model, whether there is a word to be inserted between any two keywords in all arrangements of

the keywords, and performs a word insertion process starting with a word having the highest

probability in the learning model, wherein the word insertion means performs the word insertion

process by including, as a keyword, a word to be inserted, between the two keywords, and

determining whether there is a word to be inserted between the other two keywords in all

arrangements of the keywords, and by repeating the cycle of word inclusion and determination

until a probability that there is no word to be inserted between any keywords becomes the

highest.

12. (Previously Presented) The text generation apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

in an arrangement where the database contains a text having a characteristic text pattern, the text

generation means generates a text in compliance with the characteristic text pattern.

13. (Previously Presented) The text generation apparatus according to claim 12, further

comprising pattern selecting means that contains one or a plurality of databases containing texts

having a plurality of characteristic text patterns, and selects a desired text pattern from the

plurality of text patterns.

14. (Previously Presented) The text generation method according to claim 4, wherein the

text generation means generates the natural sentence to have the natural word order based on

the word order model by applying the statistical technique.

15. (Previously Presented) The text generation apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the text generation means generates the natural sentence to have the natural word order based on the word order model by applying the statistical technique.